

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

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S/S-0 - ASHANKLE

NEA/IRN:CWNAAS (SUBSTANCE)

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O 070001Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

S E C R E T STATE 077851

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, VS

SUBJECT: ICCS: IRANIAN WITHDRAWAL PLANS

1. REQUEST YOU CONTINUE TO ACT TO PERSUADE GOI TO KEEP LARGEST POSSIBLE NUMBER OF PERSONNEL IN SAIGON CONSISTENT WITH SUSTAINING SECRETARIAT FUNCTIONS AND CREDIBLE IRANIAN PRESENCE. FOLLOWING POINTS MAY BE USEFUL.

2. WHILE WE APPRECIATE FRUSTRATIONS IRAN HAS FELT IN ICCS, WE BELIEVE WITHDRAWAL AT THIS TIME WOULD HAVE PARTICULARLY ADVERSE IMPACT ON VIET-NAM SITUATION. SHOULD IRAN WITHDRAW, INDONESIA WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY FOLLOW SUIT. THIS WOULD SPELL THE END OF THE ICCS AND WOULD BE ONE MORE SHARP BLOW TO VIETNAMESE MORALE. IT WOULD ONLY CONTRIBUTE TO UNRAVELING THE PSYCHOLOGICAL CLIMATE OF SAIGON, WHICH APPEARS NOW TO BE SETTLING DOWN SOMEWHAT AFTER SEVERAL WEEKS

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OF SEVERE STRESS. IF EVER THE GOI WISHED TO HELP THE

PEOPLE OF VIET-NAM, THIS IS THE TIME. FINALLY, IT WOULD BE A CLEAR ACTION BY RESPONSIBLE NON-COMMUNIST STATES TO UNDERMINE THE INSTITUTIONS OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT, SOMETHING SO FAR DONE ONLY BY THE COMMUNIST PARTIES.

3. WE SHARE GOI CONCERN FOR SAFETY OF IRANIAN ICCS PERSONNEL, BUT BELIEVE ASSESSMENT REFLECTED IN TAJBAKHSH'S

COMMENTS IS UNDULY GLOOMY. SAIGON AND SURROUNDING MILITARY REGION 3 REMAIN QUIET, WITH NO GREATER DIRECT THREAT TO THE AREA IN PROSPECT AT THIS TIME THAN IN THE PAST. EXCEPT FOR RECENT C-5A CRASH, WHICH WAS APPARENTLY CAUSED BY MECHANICAL FAILURE, AIR AND VEHICULAR TRAFFIC CONTINUES MOVING NORMALLY IN AND OUT OF THE CITY. US MISSION IN SAIGON IS ENCOURAGING DEPENDENTS TO DEPART ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS, AND IS SENDING HOME SOME OFFICIAL PERSONNEL WHO ARE NOT NEEDED BUT THE MISSION CONTINUES TO FUNCTION NORMALLY AND NO GENERAL EVACUATION UNDERTAKEN.

4. WE UNDERSTAND INDONESIANS HAVE DECIDED TO THIN THEIR ICCS DELEGATION BUT INTEND TO REMAIN IN ICCS WITH NO RPT

NO PLAN TO WITHDRAW AT THIS TIME.

5. REQUEST EMBASSY SAIGON PROVIDE GUIDANCE ON WHETHER EMBASSY PREPARED TO INCLUDE IRANDEL IN E&E PLANNING, PER PARA 3 REFTEL, AS WELL AS OTHER COMMENTS AS DESIRED. EMBASSY TEHRAN SHOULD URGE GOI TO MAINTAIN IRANIAN DEL OF 20, AS PROPOSED SAIGON 4359. INGERSOLL

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